

Applicant's Docket No. SST/1035

EL 967 948343

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor application of: William F. Leek

Application No.: 09/729,491

Group No.: 3637

Filed: December 3, 2000

Examiner: Tran A, Phi Dieu N

For: Automatic Take-Up Device with Internal Spring

Mail Stop RCE

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

List of Sections Forming Part of This Information Disclosure Statement

The following sections are being submitted for this Information Disclosure Statement:

1. Preliminary Statements
2. Forms PTO/SB/08A and 08B (formerly Form PTO-1449)
3. Copies of Listed Information Items Accompanying This Statement
4. Identification of Person(s) Making This Information Disclosure Statement

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Date: February 4, 2004

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* Only the date of filing (§ 1.6) will be the date used in a patent term adjustment calculation, although the date on any certificate of mailing or transmission under § 1.8 continues to be taken into account in determining timeliness. See § 1.703(f). Consider "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" (§ 1.10) or facsimile transmission (§ 1.6(d)) for the reply to be accorded the earliest possible filing date for patent term adjustment calculations.

Section 1. Preliminary statements

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Applicants submit herewith patents, publications or other information, of which they are aware that they believe may be material to the examination of this application, and in respect of which, there may be a duty to disclose.

The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g)), an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability, or that no other material information exists.

The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner. Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13-25, at 25.

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Section 3. Copies of Listed Information Items Accompanying This Statement

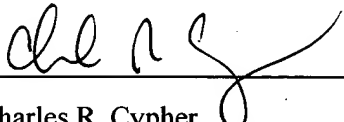
Legible copies of all items listed in Forms PTO/SB/08A and 08B (substitute for Form PTO-1449) accompany this information statement.

Section 4. Identification of Person Making This Information Disclosure Statement

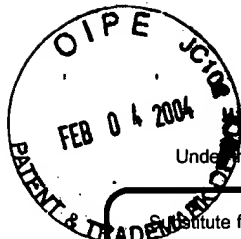
The person making this certification is:

- a. the practitioner who signs below on the basis of the information in the practitioner's file.

Date: February 4, 2004



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PTO/SB/08b (08-03)

Approved for use through 06/30/2006. OMB 0651-0031

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary)				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	09/729,491
				Filing Date	12/03/2000
				First Named Inventor	William F. Leek
				Art Unit	3637
				Examiner Name	Tran A, Phi Dieu N
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	SST/1035

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
		Provisional Application No.: 60/156,042; Title: Shrinkage Compensator for Building Tiedowns; Inventor: Alfred Commins; Filing Date: September 24, 1999.	
		COMMINS DESIGN LLC, "Acceptance Criteria for Shrinkage Compensating Devices and Similar Devices," Proposed ICBO Take-Up Devices Acceptance Criteria, Draft 1, 12/09/99, Commins Design LLC (Friday Harbor, WA), total of 3 pages, (November 2, 1999 and December 9, 1999).	
		COMMINS DESIGN LLC, "ICBO Evaluation Service, Inc., Evaluation Report, ER-XXXX December 10, 1999," PROPOSED, 1.0 Subject Commins Design AT Automatic Take-Up Shrinkage Compensating Devices, Commins Design LLC (Friday Harbor, WA), total of 5 pages, (December 10, 1999).	
		COMMINS DESIGN LLC, "AT Auto Take-Up," Shearwall Shrinkage Compensator Solves the Loose Shearwall Problem, Commins Design LLC (Friday Harbor, WA), total of 1 page, (January 3, 2000).	
		COMMINS DESIGN LLC, "Commins Design LLC," Our Solution to Wood Shrinkage Solves Shearwall Problems, Commins Design LLC (Friday Harbor, WA), total of 2 pages, (January, 2000).	

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Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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